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FAR EASTERN OFFICE

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FAR EASTERN OFFICE NEWS

The Taiwan Christian Yearbook for 1960 is now available here at \$.50 a copy. It is a book of 113 pages, illustrated with photographs and cartoon drawings. I note under Protestant Church statistics that the total of baptized communicant members is 109,378, and of inquirers 116,517.

An office tabulation of China Bulletin subscriptions shows that it is going to 45 of the United States (all but La., N.Dak., Wyo., Utah and Nev.), and to 36 countries outside the United States and Canada. 24 copies go to Taiwan, and seven to the mainland of China.

The Executive Secretary of this Office, the Rev. Wallace C. Merwin, will be out of the country from October 17 to December 2, visiting England, Thailand, Burma, Singapore, the Philippines, and Indonesia. During his absence the Administrative Assistant of this Office, Mrs. Porter, will be in charge of the office.

PEKING REACTION TO MISSIONARY WORK IN FORMOSA

On August 9 the Peking radio directed to Formosa the following statement in Mandarin, under the heading of "Beware of the New Scheme by So-called U.S. Missionaries in Taiwan." The translation, I think, is by the U.S. radio monitors:

So-called missionaries of the United States have recently come up with a new scheme. The Taiwan press reports that recently some U.S. missionaries have plunged deeply into mountainous areas inhabited by people of the Kaoshan nationality to carry out activities. It is reported that there are as many as nine different U.S. churches now active in mountainous areas in Taiwan. They include the Christian Church, the True Jesus Mission, Seventh Day Adventists (Identification doubtful), Assemblies of God, and the Holy Church (Probably Sheng Kung Hui - Anglican).

Using relief supplies as a bait, missionaries of these churches have enrolled large numbers of persons of the Kaoshan nationality as members of their respective churches. Vying with one another for expansion, these churches are opposed to one another. As a result, they undermine the unity of the people of the Kaoshan nationality.

Issued bi-weekly to keep mission boards and missionaries informed on Christian work in China. Information from Chinese church magazines and other Chinese sources is passed on as objectively as possible, with a minimum of interpretation. When interpretation is necessary, it is enclosed in parentheses as the comment of the editor. ANNUAL RATES: Domestic, \$2.50; Overseas, Firstclass \$4.00, Secondclass \$3.00. Airmail \$5.00 in 15¢ zone, \$7.00 in 25¢ zone.

It is also reported that the U.S. Churches have undertaken to distribute Bibles in the Japanese language among the Kaoshan people, sow discord between the Kaoshan and the Han nationalities in Taiwan, and carry out intensive schismatic propaganda.

These reports carried by the Taiwan press once more show that U.S. imperialism is leaving no stone unturned in its activities of aggression. As we all know, since the United States forcibly seized our territory of Taiwan, large numbers of so-called U.S. missionaries have made their way to Taiwan to carry out criminal activities. These so-called missionaries are special agents in religious cloak. An overwhelming majority of them belong to such espionage agencies as the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency and the Intelligence Department of the Pacific U.S. Forces Headquarters. They have not only adopted many measures to drug the Taiwan people, but have also carried out their collection of intelligence for the U.S. forces and smuggling operations.

Now these wolves in sheep's clothing have seen fit to reach out their devil's paw toward the people of the Kaoshan nationality. It is particularly worthy of notice that this insidious move should happen at a time when the U.S. ruling clique is intensifying its effort to carry out the scheme of creating two Chinas. For this reason, this move highlights not only cultural aggression, but also an infamous political scheme.

In the past couple of years, following the intensification of U.S. aggression in Taiwan, the number of U.S. missionaries in Taiwan has continually increased. According to a news despatch by New York Times correspondent (Domoan - possibly Tillman Durdin), the number of U.S. missionaries in Taiwan has increased to more than 7,100, averaging more than 300 for each county and city in Taiwan, in keeping with the U.S. scheme for creating two Chinas. These U.S. missionaries have undertaken to foster the growth of pro-U.S. forces in Taiwan and have tried their best to win the hearts of college and school students and intellectuals.

"Hsin Wen Tien Ti", a pro-Chiang weekly published in Hong Kong, reports that an overwhelming majority of the 220,000 Catholics in the Taipei Diocese are college and school students and intellectuals. Early this year, the U.S. aggressive clique directed Yu Pin, a pro-U.S. extremist, to return to Taiwan from the United States with a large sum of U.S. dollars for carrying out insidious activities. He intends to re-establish Fu Jen University in Taiwan to promote the growth of pro-U.S. forces. On Jan. 5 (this should be July 5), a large U.S. Christian inspection delegation composed of more than thirty persons (This refers to the party led by Ray Gibbons, of the United Church of Christ, as reported in the Bulletin for September 19) flew to Taipei from Tokyo, reportedly for studying the political, economic and religious conditions in Taiwan to coordinate with intensified U.S. aggression in Taiwan.

Clearly, the current influx of U.S. missionaries in mountainous areas in Taiwan must be a link in the chain of the afore-mentioned insidious activities; these missionaries want to drug with religion the people of the Kaoshan nationality who have a glorious revolutionary history, and -- making use of the handful of black sheep of the Kaoshan and Han nationalities, to foster the growth of pro-U.S. forces, and to create conditions for the United States to create two Chinas, so that it will be able to occupy our territory of Taiwan permanently.

(In regard to the exaggerated figure of 7,100 American missionaries in Taiwan, the Taiwan Christian Yearbook for 1960 (Protestant) reports a total of 534 missionaries, of which certainly a considerable proportion is not American; and an RNS report of September 28 states that of Catholics there are 521 priests, 49 brothers and 403 sisters, of whom also it would be true that a considerable proportion is Chinese or of some other non-American nationality. The total number of American missionaries, Protestant and Catholic together, would therefore certainly be well less than 1,000. The New York Times office does not know what news despatch the Peking

broadcaster could have been quoting.)

SHANGHAI CATHOLIC NEWS

We now have a fairly detailed account of a Catholic conference in Shanghai held on April 23-26 of this year. That was about a month after sentence was passed on Bishops Walsh and Kung and other Catholic leaders. The conference is called a representative conference of Catholics. It "summed up the experience of the struggle waged by the Catholic circles of Shanghai against U.S. imperialism and its tool, the Holy See of Rome, established the Shanghai Patriotic Catholic Association, and elected their own bishop." (quoting an NCNA despatch).

Attending the conference were 683 fathers, sisters, and representatives of Catholics from various districts and hsien in the Shanghai municipality. 172 others attended the conference as observers. These included Archbishop P'i Shu-shih, Chairman of the Chinese Patriotic Catholic Association, Bishops Li Wei-kuang and Chao Chen-sheng and 37 other bishops, fathers and Catholics from Peking, Hopei, Shantung, Anhwei, Kiangsu, Hupeh, Chekiang and Fukien.

They unanimously agreed that "Shanghai Catholics, like all Chinese Catholics, must be free of all control by the Vatican and run the church independently. They pledged that henceforth they will all the more firmly uphold the CCP leadership, follow the socialistic path, intensively carry out the anti-imperialist patriotic campaign under the brilliant illumination of the general line for socialist construction, and join the people of the whole country to contribute to the socialist construction of the motherland."

Layman Hu Wen-yao (already excommunicated by name by the Vatican) was elected Chairman of the Shanghai Patriotic Catholic Association, and Yang Shih-ta, Chang Chia-shu, T'ang Li-tao and Lu Wei-tu were elected vice-chairmen. It was at this meeting also that Father Chang Chia-shu was elected bishop to succeed the deposed and imprisoned Kung P'ing-mei.

DIALECT ROMANIZATION

In an article in the April 11 Bulletin on The Use of Romanized, I spoke of its use for the Uighur and Kazakh languages of the northwest, and went on to say that the Chinese coastal dialects are not being standardized through Romanization, since the aim is to replace them with the Kuoyu. However an article in the Canton Southern Daily for June 9 shows that four Kwangtung dialects have been transcribed into Romanized. These are Cantonese, Hakka, Chaochow (Swatow) and Hainanese.

In the transcription of Cantonese only 19 letters of the alphabet are used, no use being found for c, r, s, v, w, y, and z. However, the vowels are added to by the use of diacritical marks, macron and circumflex, for e and o. The nine Cantonese tones are distinguished by superior index numbers immediately following the romanization. For example, the syllable which in Mandarin we usually romanize as shih is now spelled xi, and that word when meaning a hymn is written xi¹, when meaning time is written xi⁴. Canton city is taken as the standard. "Other Cantonese speaking areas may add suitable phonetic symbols or take off the unnecessary phonetic symbols on the basis of this plan."

In the Hakka romanization the letters v, w, and y are not used. The six Hakka tones are similarly distinguished. Hakka as pronounced in Meih sien is taken as the standard.

In the Chaochow romanization the unused letters of the alphabet are f, j, q, v, w, x, and y. A circumflexed variant of the letter e is used. Eight tones are distinguished, and Swatow is taken as the standard.

In Hainan Mencheong is taken as the standard. There are eight unused letters (c, j, k, q, r, t, w, x) and eight tones.

These scripts are in the main based upon the Han Language Phoneticization Plan, so that familiarity with the alphabet could also be used as a stepping-stone to the study of Kuoyu. For all four scripts, we are told that "In principle, new letters of the alphabet are not coined, and the original pronunciation of the letters of the alphabet (By original, he probably means in Kuoyu, not in some Western language) is not changed at random."

These four plans were prepared by specialists, professors, and responsible cadres of relevant units called together by the Provincial Education Department under the guidance of the Cultural and Educational Division of the Kwangtung CCP Provincial Committee. Chungshan County has been selected as an experimental area, and both Cantonese and Hakka experimental classes are being carried on there, teaching both the local dialect and Mandarin through the use of the Roman alphabet. All of these dialect areas are training personnel for carrying out similar experimental projects.

The use of Kuoyu (Mandarin) is still the ultimate purpose, but this present plan is evidently a compromise for the purpose of getting quicker progress in literacy.

COMMUNIST CRITICISMS OF THE U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT

Peking on September 13 criticized a State Department statement of September 8 on the question of the exchange of news reporters. According to the Peking statement, although the State Department claimed to ready to "engage in an exchange of newsmen in accordance with the principles of equality and reciprocity," still is stipulated that this exchange would be "subject to the Constitution and applicable laws and regulations in force in the United States," thus nullifying all possibility of reciprocity. The State Department spokesman, Lincoln White, in clarifying the statement, is said to have pointed out that Chinese newsmen would be subversives, and therefore under American law would not be permitted to enter the country.

Two days later Peking replied to the State Department's Press Officer Joseph Reap's statement of September 9, in which he had charged the Communist Government with having violated the agreement entered into in 1955 for the mutual return of civilians. The Communist reply was that all American civilians have been allowed to return home except those who have been duly convicted of some crime and are now serving out their sentence. "The American criminals in China can, of course, return to their country, but only after they have served their sentences or are released ahead of time because of good conduct and have their ordinary civilian status returned to them."

The Communist statement goes on to complain that the U.S. Government is still by various means hindering Chinese in the U.S. from returning to their homes. It also complains that although China gave the U.S. a complete list of Americans in China, the U.S. has not reciprocated by giving them a complete list of Chinese in the U.S. (Of course the reason for this unwillingness is obvious. Most of the Chinese now in the U.S. would declare their allegiance to the Nationalist Government in Formosa rather than the Communist Government in Peking.)

MISSIONARY NEWS

Miss Evangeline French, China Inland Missionary, died recently at the age of 91. She was one of the indomitable trio of French sisters (Evangeline and Francesca) and Mildred Cable, who traveled all through Central Asia. The other two of the trio produced such well-known books as "Through Jade Gate and Central Asia" and "Something Happened", and the three were co-author of "Desert Journal", letters written from various places in Central Asia during the years 1928-31.

Miss Laura Cross, former American Board missionary in Peking, died recently. Her home was in Minneapolis, Minn.